BOROUGH OF WREXHAM.

ANNUAL REPORT

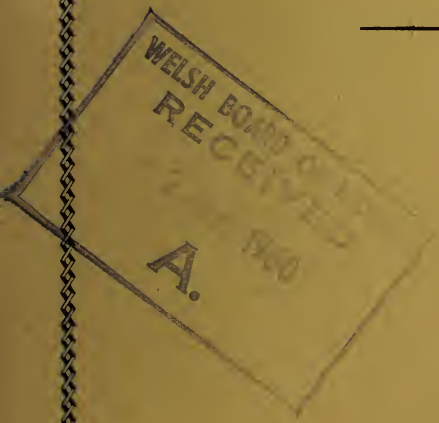
OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1959



E. WILLIAMS,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
(Resigned September, 1959).

R. ELLIS JONES,
M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
(Commenced January, 1960).

A. McCARTNEY,
M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Jones & Williams, Printers, 14, Regent Street, Wrexham.

BOROUGH OF WREXHAM.

Public Health Department,
1, Grosvenor Road,
WREXHAM.
(Tel. No. Wrexham 2103).

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1959

E. WILLIAMS,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
(Resigned September, 1959).

R. ELLIS JONES,
M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
(Commenced January, 1960).

A. McCARTNEY,
M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the Health and Vital Statistics of the Borough of Wrexham for 1959.

Doctor Evan Williams resigned his appointment as Medical Officer of Health of this Authority in September, 1959, to take up the appointment of Medical Officer of Health for North Devon. He had served here since October, 1952.

There was an increase in the Birth Rate from 17.7 to 19.1, but there was also an increase in the Death Rate from 11.5 to 12.3.

The figures for Tuberculosis show that although the number of deaths due to Tuberculosis continues to fall, the number of new notifications has risen to 27. Continued effort must be made by all concerned to reduce the incidence of this disease.

The Meals on Wheels Service, which was begun in 1958, continued to provide a hot meal per week for some old people. It is an example of the way in which voluntary help can still be of great use in the community.

I should like to acknowledge the interest shown by the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee in the work of the Health Department. I should also like to thank the Health Committee and the Staff of the Health Department for the kind welcome which they gave me.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. ELLIS JONES,

Medical Officer of Health.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman—Alderman CYRIL O. JONES, B.A.

Vice-Chairman—Councillor William Evans.

Alderman DUTTON.

„ Mrs. C. JARVIS JONES.

„ STABLER.

Councillor CRAIG.

„ EDWARD DAVIES.

„ J. A. DAVIES.

„ GRIFFITHS.

„ Mrs. HAYNES.

„ HUGHES.

„ JACKSON.

„ LLOYD JONES.

„ LINDSAY.

„ E. PRICE.

„ RICHARDS.

„ ROBERTS.

„ TAPLEY.

„ TAYLOR.

„ T. F. THOMAS.

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR 1959.

Medical Officer of Health:

E. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
(Resigned September, 1959).

R. ELLIS JONES, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
(Commenced January, 1960).

Chief Public Health Inspector and Abattoir Superintendent:

A. McCARTNEY, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

B. JONES, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

S. J. V. JAMES,
(Resigned July, 1959).

TECWYN ROBERTS,
(Resigned December, 1959).

G. J. REES

Articled Pupil Public Health Inspectors:

G L. HORNE

R. N. SQUIRE
(Commenced October, 1959).

Clerk to the Health Department:

Miss M. M. PARRY

Clerks to the Public Health Inspector's Department:

Miss M. B. PARRY

Miss B. BEAKS

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area 2,916 Acres
Population (Registrar General's Estimate 32,970 (Mid Annual)
Rateable value of the Borough, April 1st, 1960 £423,368
Product of a Penny Rate £1,650
No. of Inhabited Houses (December 31st, 1959) 10,406
No. of Corporation Houses (December 31st, 1959) 5,010
Density of Persons per House 3.2

POPULATION TRENDS SINCE 1945.

Year.	*Population.*		*Annual Increase. / Decrease.*	*Natural Increase.*
1945	25,670	Estimated Figure	– 300	176
1946	27,800	Estimated Figure	+ 2130	226
1947	28,450	Estimated Figure	+ 650	289
1948	29,100	Estimated Figure	+ 650	272
1949	29,710	Estimated Figure	+ 610	215
1950	30,470	Estimated Figure	+ 760	206
1951	30,940	Census Figure	+ 470	164
1952	32,090	Estimated Figure	+ 1150	209
1953	32,420	Estimated Figure	+ 330	196
1954	32,290	Estimated Figure	– 130	200
1955	32,330	Estimated Figure	+ 40	159
1956	32,810	Estimated Figure	+ 480	257
1957	31,970	Estimated Figure	– 840	247
1958	32,650	Estimated Figure	+ 680	269
1959	32,970	Estimated Figure	+ 320	297

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Population (R.G. Estimate Mid-Annual) 32,970
Comparability Factors :—
Deaths 1.15
Births 97

BIRTHS.

During the year there were 650 live births of which 351 were Males and 299 Females. This is an increase of 54 compared with the previous year.

The total number of illegitimate births was 31 of which 18 were Males and 13 Females. The total number of illegitimate births for 1958 was 25. The proportion of illegitimate births to total births was 4.8%.

	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*
Live births (Legitimate)	333	 286	 619
Live births (Illegitimate)	18	 13	 31
	351	 299	 650

Birth Rate (Adjusted) per 1,000 population 19.1
England and Wales 16.5

The Birth Rate (adjusted) for previous years and for 1959 is as follows :—

1948	20.1	1954	15.18
1949	20.7	1955	15.9
1950	17.2	1956	16.9
1951	17.8	1957	18.3
1952	17.1	1958	17.7
1953	15.46	1959	19.1

Stillbirths.

There was a total of 14 Stillbirths during the year, as compared with 15 during the previous year.

	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*
Stillbirths (Legitimate)	5	7	12
Stillbirths (Illegitimate)	2	—	2
	7	7	14

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 population 0.4
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Stillbirths 21.1
England and Wales 20.7

The following table shows the number of stillbirths, the stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths and per 1,000 population for the last 12 years.

Year.	*No. of Stillbirths.*	*Rate per* 1,000 *Live and Stillbirths.*	*Rate per* 1,000 *Population.*
1948	16	26.6	0.5
1949	20	35.9	0.7
1950	21	37.2	0.6
1951	20	36.9	0.64
1952	10	17.2	0.31
1953	15	28.1	0.46
1954	15	27.0	0.46
1955	14	25.7	0.43
1956	11	18.9	0.33
1957	17	28.1	0.53
1958	15	24.5	0.5
1959	14	21.1	0.4

DEATHS.

The total number of deaths of Borough residents during the year was 353. This figure is 26 more than occured in 1958. The total number of Males who died was 180 and Females 173.

	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*
	180	173	353
Death Rate (Adjusted) per 1,000 population	12.3		
England and Wales	11.6		

The adjusted Death Rate (taking the comparability factor into consideration) is 12.3. The Death Rate for England and Wales is 11.6.

The Death Rate for previous years and for 1959 is as follows :—

1948	10.7	1954	11.16
1949	12.9	1955	12.16
1950	11.8	1956	10.8
1951	11.04	1957	10.6
1952	11.95	1958	11.5
1953	10.49	1959	12.3

The following table gives causes of death :—

Causes.	*Male.*	*Female.*	*Total.*
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	—	2
2. Tuberculosis, other	1	—	1
3. Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, Stomach	12	6	18
11. Malignant, neoplasm, Lung Bronchus	10	1	11
12. Malignant neoplasm, Breast	—	7	7
13. Malignant neoplasm, Uterus	—	6	6
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	13	17	30
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	—	2
16. Diabetes	—	4	4
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	23	36	59
18. Coronary disease, angina	25	17	42
19. Hypertension with heart disease	4	3	7
20. Other heart disease	22	25	47

21. Other circulatory diseases	7	8	15
22. Influenza	1	2	3
23. Pneumonia	7	6	13
24. Bronchitis	13	8	21
25. Other diseases of the respiratory system	4	1	5
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	—	3
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	—	2
28. Nephritis, nephrosis	2	1	3
29. Hyperplasia of prostrate	3	—	3
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	3	3	6
32. Other defined and illdefined diseases	11	17	28
33. Motor vehicle accidents	6	1	7
34. All other accidents	4	3	7
35. Suicides	—	1	1
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
	180	173	353

Neo-Natal Deaths.

This represents the number of deaths occuring in infants under the age of 4 weeks. There were 13 deaths in all, 6 being Males and 7 Females.

	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*
Legitimate	4	7	11
Illegitimate	2	—	2
	6	7	13

Neo-Natal Death Rate per 1,000 live births 20.0

Infantile Mortality.

During the year 20 infants died under the age of 1 year, as compared with 16 for the previous year.

	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*
Legitimate	10	8	18
Illegitimate	2	—	2
	12	8	20

Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births (total) 30.8
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births (Legitimate) 29.0
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births (Illegitimate) 64.5
England and Wales 22.0

The Infantile Mortality Rate for previous years and for 1959 is as follows :—

1948	37.7	1954	18.6
1949	50.4	1955	30.18
1950	44.2	1956	22.8
1951	28.7	1957	27.2
1952	35.02	1958	26.8
1953	32.9	1959	30.8

The following table gives causes of death occuring in infants under 1 year :—

Age	*Sex.*		*Causes of Death.*
	Male	*Female*	
20 mins.		1	Congenital Abnormalities.
1 hour		1	Adrenal haemorrhage.
2 hours	1		Prematurity.
4 hours	1		Congenital Abnormalities.
7 hours		1	Prematurity.
9 hours		1	Prematurity.
18 hours	1		Haemorrhagic disease of the newborn.
1 day		1	Spina Bifida.
3 days		1	Congenital Abnormalities.
5 days		1	Congenital Abnormalities.
5 days	1		Acute Peritonitis.
1 week	1		Prematurity.
2 weeks	1		Congenital Abnormalities.
1 month	1		Congenital Abnormalities.
1 month	1		Broncho-pneumonia.
2 months	1		Congenital Abnormalities.
4 months	1		Broncho-pneumonia.
5 months		1	Broncho-pneumonia.
6 months	1		Broncho-pneumonia.
9 months	1		Tuberculous Meningitis.

Maternal Mortality.

There were no deaths due to childbirth during the year.

Cancer Deaths.

There were 72 deaths from Cancer during the year, as compared with 67 in 1958. The Cancer deaths had decreased by 3 in Males and increased by 8 in Females.

The ratio of Cancer deaths to total deaths is 1 : 4.6 as compared with 1 : 4.9 in 1958. The percentage of Cancer deaths to total deaths is 20.4.

	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*
Stomach	12	6	18
Lung and Bronchus	10	1	11
Breast	—	7	7
Uterus	—	6	6
Others	13	17	30
	35	37	72

The total number of Cancer deaths and the percentage of Cancer deaths to total deaths since 1948 is shown in the following table:—

Year.	Total No. of Deaths.	Cancer Deaths.			Percentage of Cancer Deaths to Total Deaths.
		Male.	Female.	TOTAL.	
1948	312	28	23	51	16.3
1949	360	26	28	64	17.8
1950	337	26	27	53	15.7
1951	358	25	27	52	14.5
1952	362	32	21	53	14.6
1953	321	26	24	50	15.6
1954	339	35	24	59	17.4
1955	371	40	19	59	15.9
1956	313	31	31	62	19.8
1957	341	33	23	56	16.1
1958	327	38	29	67	20.5
1959	353	35	37	72	20.4

Heart Disease.

Heart disease was responsible for 111 deaths. Of these 58 were Males and 53 Females. The percentage of deaths from Heart Disease to total deaths is 31.4 as compared with 31.5 in 1958.

Pulmonary Causes.

There were 44 deaths from Pulmonary causes during the year, 2 of these being due to Tuberculosis, 13 due to Pneumonia and 21 due to Bronchitis.

Respiratory Disease.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
T.B. Respiratory	2	—	2
Pneumonia	7	6	13
Bronchitis	13	8	21
Influenza	1	2	3
Others	4	1	5
	27	17	44

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year a total of 174 notifications of infectious diseases were received. Measles, Whooping Cough and Tuberculosis form the bulk of this figure, giving a total of 129. The number of Measles notifications, 36, was one of the lowest ever recorded. Whooping Cough notifications rose to 66 from last year's low figure of 25. There have been no deaths from Whooping Cough since 1951.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis notifications rose to 27 as compared with 14 in the previous year. This figure indicates that all methods possible must still be used to the utmost to prevent this disease. The Table giving the notifications of Tuberculosis arranged according to age groups and sex, shows a preponderance in the male, 55-64 age group. This group has 8 cases, half the total for all male age groups. 10 of the 11 cases in women occured in the 25-54 age group.

13 cases (11 Pulmonary and 2 Non-pulmonary) were removed from the Tuberculosis Register during the year. 6 persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified as having moved into the area from other districts.

The following table shows the number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register on the 1st January and 31st December, 1959.

	Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.		
	Male	*Female*	TOTAL	*Male*	*Female*	TOTAL
1st January, 1959.	143	106	249	15	21	36
31st December, 1959.	159	116	275	16	24	40

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Disease.	Rates per 1,000 Population.			
	Notification.		*Deaths.*	
Dysentery	1	0.03	—	—
Typhoid	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal	1	0.03	—	—
Scarlet Fever	15	0.5	—	—
Whooping Cough	66	2.0	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	0.03	—	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Measles	36	1.1	—	—
Pneumonia	10	0.3	1	0.03
Acute Poliomyelitis				
Acute Paralytic	1	0.03	—	—
Acute Non-paralytic	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis, Pulm'ary	27	0.8	2	0.06
Tuberculosis, Other	5	0.2	1	0.03
Food Poisoning	2	0.06	—	—

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN 1959.

(Arranged according to Age).

Disease.	Under 1	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 44	45 to 64	65 plus	TOTAL
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	1	2	7	4	1	—	—	—	15
Pneumonia	1	—	—	—	—	1	4	4	10
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Meningococcal Infection	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Typhoid & Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	9
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	3	8	11	12	2	—	—	—	36
Whooping Cough	18	14	13	19	—	2	—	—	66
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2
Tuberculosis, Pulm'ary	—	—	—	—	1	12	13	1	27
Tuberculosis, Other	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	5
TOTALS	24	25	31	36	4	30	19	5	174

TUBERCULOSIS CASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR

(Arranged according to Age).

Age Period.	Pulmonary. *Male.*	Pulmonary. *Female.*	Non-Pulmonary. *Male.*	Non-Pulmonary. *Female.*
0—1	—	—	—	—
1—4	—	—	—	—
5—9	—	—	—	—
10—14	—	1	—	—
15—19	1	—	—	—
20—24	—	—	1	—
25—34	2	4	—	1
35—44	3	2	1	—
45—54	1	4	—	1
55—64	8	—	—	1
65 plus	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	16	11	2	3

The following table shows the number of Lung Tuberculosis cases notified and the rate per 1,000 population, and the deaths due to Lung Tuberculosis and rate per 1,000 population since 1948.

Year.	*No. of Cases.*	*Case Rate per 1000 population.*	*No. of Deaths.*	*Death Rate per 1,000 population*
1948	30	1.03	7	0.2
1949	42	1.4	13	0.4
1950	24	0.8	10	0.3
1951	17	0.6	8	0.3
1952	46	1.4	4	0.1
1953	50	1.5	5	0.2
1954	31	0.9	6	0.2
1955	24	0.7	1	0.03
1956	20	0.6	1	0.03
1957	23	0.7	4	0.1
1958	14	0.4	3	0.09
1959	27	0.8	2	0.06

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION.

Protective immunisation and vaccination against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Smallpox and Poliomyelitis are undertaken by the General Practitioners and at the Infant Welfare Clinics.

There are four separate Infant Welfare Clinics within the Borough. These clinics are open once each week with the exception of the clinic held at No. 1, Grosvenor Road, which is held twice a week.

Separate sessions are held for vaccination against Poliomyelitis at No. 1, Grosvenor Road and Queen's Park.

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough.

260 infants under the age of one year were immunised against these diseases within the Borough during the year. The ratio of this figure to the number of births in the year is 40% and this indicates that there has been a further fall in the proportion of babies being protected against these diseases. The previous year's figure was approximately 45%. A figure of 75% must be attained for a satisfactory standard of protection in the community.

The following table shows the number of children immunised against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough during the year :—

Diphtheria Immunisation.					Diphtheria & Whoop'g Cough Im.				
Primary Doses			*Repeat Doses*		*Primary Doses*			*Repeat Doses*	
0—1	1—4	5—15	1—4	5—15	0—1	1—4	5—15	1—4	5—15
—	2	1	5	13	260	61	5	—	—

The Combined Diptheria and Whooping Cough immunisation was commenced within the Borough in 1952. The following table gives the total number of children in the age groups 0—1, 1—5, 5—15 years who have been immunised since 1953 onwards.

Year.	*Total Births.*	*Whooping Cough Notifications All Ages.*	*Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Imm.*		
			0—1	1—4	5—15
1953	517	111	135	113	—
1954	539	45	128	136	—
1955	530	71	129	123	—
1956	570	35	209	118	2
1957	588	64	267	112	1
1958	596	25	266	78	4
1959	650	66	260	61	5

Vaccination against Smallpox.

A total of 395 persons were vaccinated against Smallpox during the year, 286 of these were infants under 1 year of age. It is unusual to find more infants receiving protection from Smallpox than Diphtheria and Whooping Cough. This may be attributed to the Smallpox scares which have occured on Merseyside in recent years.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis.

Protection against Poliomyelitis was extended during the year to the under 26 years of age group, whereas previously it was confined to the 6 month to 15 years group and expectant mothers. By the end of the year 3,985 persons had received a full course of three injections and a further 3,986 received two injections.

CARE OF THE AGED.

Where possible the elderly people are given every assistance to enable them to remain as long as possible in their own homes. The more needy cases are frequently visited by the Health Visitors and in instances of illhealth by the District Nurses. They are also assisted in running their own homes through the Home Help Scheme. The County Health Authority employ two full-time and 43 part-time Home Helps for the Borough and the immediate surrounding district.

The "Meals on Wheels Scheme" for the elderly continued satisfactorily during the year. The Service at present provides one hot meal a week at the cost of 1/- per person, the Borough Council being responsible for the additional cost and also the provision of transport for delivery.

The "Meals" are now prepared at the St. David's Secondary Modern School Kitchen, during the school term and by the Canteen of Messrs. Thomas Marshall &Co. (Loxley) Ltd., of the Abenbury Brickworks during the school holidays. The delivery of the "Meals" to the aged is undertaken by the Women's Voluntary Service, without whose help and assistance the Service could not be undertaken. At present between 25 and 30 "Meals" are delivered each week and they are greatly appreciated by the elderly persons.

HOUSING.

The following table shows the number of applicants for Council Houses as at December, 1959 :—

Apartments.

1.—Residing in the Borough	505
2.—Residing outside the Borough	19

Householders.

1.—Residing in the Borough	376
2.—Residing outside the Borough	76
TOTAL	976

Details of Slum Clearance progress are given in the Chief Public Health Inspector's section of the report.

WATER.

During the year 18 samples of the town's water supply were taken at various points and submitted for bacteriological examination. One sample was reported to be unsatisfactory, but 2 samples taken from the same point within 48 hours proved satisfactory.

GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Laboratory Provision.

Bacteriological examination of water, milk and ice cream is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory at Birkenhead. This Laboratory is to move to Chester in 1960, and we look forward to the greater convenience this move will bring.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.

(1) **General.**

(a) Wrexham and East Denbighshire War Memorial Hospital 201 Beds.

(b) Maelor General Hospital —

Paediatric Unit	50 Beds.
Geriatric Unit	79 Beds.
Emergency	241 Beds.
Infectious Diseases Isolation	55 Beds.

(2) **Maternity Cases.**

(a) Trevalyn Maternity Hospital 47 Beds.

(b) Croesnewydd Maternity Unit 18 Beds.

(3) **Orthopaedic.**

Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, Gobowen.

Trevalyn Maternity Hospital closed at the end of December, 1959, after serving this community since 1947. Arrangements were made for all maternity work, including Ante-Natal Clinics, to be transferred to the Unit at the Maelor General Hospital in 1960.

CLINICS.

(1) **Orthopaedic.**

The diagnosis and After-Care Treatment of Orthopaedic Cases is carried out at the Wrexham and East Denbighshire War Memorial Hospital, supplemented by institutional treatment at the Orthopaedic Hospital, Gobowen.

(2) **Venereal Disease Clinic.**

A Venereal Disease Clinic is established at the Out-Patient's Department of the War Memorial Hospital.

(3) **Infant Welfare Clinics.**

Infant Welfare Clinics are held at four centres weekly within the Borough.

Gatefield, Kings Mill Road Monday Afternoon.

No. 1, Grosvenor Road....Monday and Wednesday Afternoon.

Garden Village Institute,
Kenyon Avenue Wednesday Afternoon.

Queen's Park Thursday Afternoon.

A new clinic building is to open in Queen's Park in 1960.

(4) **Ante-Natal Clinics.**

Ante-Natal Clinics are held weekly within the Borough.

No. 1, Grosvenor Road —
Tuesday Morning and Afternoon.
Wednesday Morning only

Queen's Park — Thursday Morning only.

(5) **Eye Clinic.**

An Eye Clinic is held at No. 1, Grosvenor Road.

(6) **Family Planning Clinic.**

A Family Planning Clinic is held on Thursday Afternoon at No. 1, Grosvenor Road.

(7) **Dental Clinics.**

Dental Clinics are held weekly at No. 1, Grosvenor Road.

Maternal and Child Welfare Monday.

Fillings Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Orthodontics Alternate Tuesdays and every Thursday.

Casuals Friday and Saturday Mornings.

(8) **Speech Therapy.**

Speech Therapy Clinics are held weekly within the Borough.

No. 1, Grosvenor Road....Monday and Thursday Mornings

Gatefield Wednesday.

Queen's Park Friday.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1959.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Fourteenth Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Inspectors' Department.

The main impetus during the year has undoubtedly been on the clearance of unfit houses, and very satisfactory progress has been made in that direction. At the present rate of progress, the Council's eight year programme will be virtually completed in five years, and fresh proposals for a future programme are now under consideration.

It had been hoped to make some progress with the first Smoke Control Area in the Borough under the provisions of the Clean Air Act, but a shortage of Public Health Inspectors had rendered this impossible.

Staff changes during the year included the departure of Dr. Evan Williams, Medical Officer of Health, who secured an appointment in Devon, and our best wishes went with him. Two Public Health Inspectors, Mr. S. J. V. James and Mr. Tecwyn Roberts, also secured new posts, and had not been replaced by the end of the year. In October, Mr. R. N. Squire was appointed Pupil Public Health Inspector.

I would acknowledge my debt to you, Mr. Chairman, and to all the Members of the Health Committee for the help and encouragement received at all times, and I am grateful to all the Officers of the Council for their co-operation. Once again, I must also thank the Members of my Staff for their excellent work during the year.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. McCARTNEY,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Total No. of Inspections made	8,293
Total No. of Complaints received	850
Total No. of Notices served	218
Total No. of Interviews with owners, etc.	491

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

No. of smoke observations made	81
No. of visits made	388
No. of Notices served (Informal)	8
No. of deposit gauges sited in the Borough	2

The average monthly deposit of soot, etc., for the past three years is as follows:—

	1957.	1958.	1959.
Parish Church Site	16 tons.	12 tons.	14 tons.
Allotment Garden, Price's Lane	—	11 tons.	14 tons.

Early in the year, the Council confirmed a Resolution of the Health Committee that the necessary action be taken for the establishment of the Smoke Control Area in the town centre. The initial inspections were commenced, but, due to a shortage of Public Health Inspectors, very little progress has been made with the survey.

Towards the end of the year, steps were taken to deal with the shortage of staff, with good results, and it is hoped that satisfactory progress will now be made towards the creation of the first smoke control area in the Borough.

I think it is opportune to point out that the establishment of Smoke Control Areas throughout the Country is proving to be a matter of considerable controversy, and this is particularly so in coal producing localities. The Coal Merchants Federation are particulary active in their opposition to Smoke Control Areas, and in their efforts to retain the open coal fire. It cannot be too strongly emphasised that the burning of all types of solid smokeless fuels, together with the use of gas and electricity, will still create a demand for all the coal that can be produced.

Bed Bugs.

No. of inspections made	75
No. of Council Houses —	
(i) Found to be infested	21
(ii) Disinfested by this Department	21
No. of other Premises—	
(i) Found to be infested	2
(ii) Disinfested by this Department at owners expense	2

Cinemas and Places of Entertainment.

No. of inspections made	5
No. of Informal Notices served	—
No. of Notices complied with	—

Closets.

Cleansed and limewashed	2
No. of water-closets repaired or re-constructed	18
No. of flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	14
No. of new water-clost pans or pedestals	11
No. provided with supply of water	—

Common Lodging Houses.

No. on Register	Nil.

Drains.

Drains constructed or re-constructed	—
Repaired or cleansed	11
New inspection chambers	1
Ventilated	—
Gullies provided or renewed	1
New sinks provided	—
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed	6
Soil and ventilating pipes repaired or renewed	2

Factories (Excluding Bakehouses).

No. of Factories in District (Mech.)	173
No. of Factories in District (Non-Mech.)	51
No. of inspections made	147
No. of contraventions found	1
No. of contraventions remedied	1
No. of contraventions outstanding at end of year	—

Infectious Diseases Enquiries.

No. of investigations carried out	14

Offensive Trades.

No. of businesses in District	5
No. of inspections made	16
No. of contraventions found	—
No. of contraventions remedied	—
No. of contraventions outstanding at end of year	—

Rodent Control.

No. of premises inspected	866
No. of premises found infested	221
No. of visits made	2,577

Removal of Household Refuse.

No. of new ashbins provided by Statutory action	77

Sanitary Defects Remedied.

Dampness.

No. of roofs renewed or repaired	25
No. of eavesgutters and rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	20
Yard surfaces repaired or relaid	7

Other Work.

No. of walls repaired	30
No. of walls rendered or repointed	4
No. of ceilings repaired	8
No. of floors repaired	5
No. of chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt	5
No. of firegrates repaired or renewed	3
Damp proof courses provided and dampness remedied	12
No. of doors and windows repaired or renewed	30
Rooms cleansed	1
Offensive accumulations removed	4
Sufficient water supply provided	2
Staircases repaired or renewed	1

Swimming Baths and Pools.

No. of Swimming Baths in the district 1

No. of samples of water taken 14

No. of samples satisfactory 13

Tents, Vans, Sheds, Etc.

No. of inspections made 258

No. of contraventions found —

Water Supply.

No. of samples taken for Analysis 18

No. of samples satisfactory 17

HOUSING.

Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices.

No. of dwelling-houses where defects were remedied in consequence of Informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 56

Action Under Statutory Powers during the Year.

(A) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts—Section 93.

(1) No. of outstanding Notices carried over from previous year 17

(2) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Abatement Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 18

(3) No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices :—

(a) By Owners 25

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners —

(4) No. of Notices outstanding at end of year 10

Section 45.

(1) No. of outstanding Notices carried over from previous year 10

(2) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defective water-closets to be repaired 11

(3) No. of dwelling-houses where defective water-closets were repaired after service of Formal Notices :—

(a) By Owners 19

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners —

(4) No. of Notices outstanding at end of year 2

Section 39.

(1) No. of outstanding Notices carried over from previous year 7

(2) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served for the renewing or repairing of existing drains 14

(3) No. of dwelling-houses where the existing drains were renewed and cleansed :—

(a) By Owners 15

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners —

(4) No. of Notices outstanding at end of year 6

Section 138 and Water Act, 1945. Section 30.

(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requesting Owner to provide water supply in pipes —

(2) No. of dwelling-houses in which water supply was provided after service of Formal Notices : —

(a) By Owners —

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners —

(3) No. of Notices outstanding at end of year —

(B) **Proceedings under Section 9 and 10 of the Housing Act, 1957.**

(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs —

(2) No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices :—

(a) By Owners —

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners —

(C) **Proceedings under Sections 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957.**

(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served under Section 16 5

(2) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made —

(3) No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders —

(4) No. of dwellings-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made 5

(5) No. of dwelling-houses closed in pursuance of Closing Orders 5

(6) No. of dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of Undertaking given by Owner —

(7) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Undertaking from owners accepted not to re-let houses for human habitation 12

(8) No. of Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by Medical Officer of Health 5

(9) No. of Local Authority owned houses demolished in pursuance of Medical Officer of Health's Certificate 7

(D) **Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957.**

(1) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made —

(2) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit —

(E) **Housing Act, 1957. Overcrowding.**

(1) (a) No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year } not known.

(b) No. of families dwelling therein } not known.

(c) No. of persons dwelling therein } not known.

(2) No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year 11

(3) (a) No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 42

(b) No. of persons concerned in such cases 156

(4) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses again became overcrowded after the Local Authority had taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding Not Known.

Clearance of Unfit Houses.

Very substantial progress has been made during the year in implementing the Council's programme for the clearance of unfit houses. Nine Compulsory Purchase Orders and two Clearance Orders were submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government, and by the end of the year, eight Compulsory Purchase Orders and one Clearance Order had been confirmed. In these Orders, there was a total of 105 houses with a population of 323 persons.

A Clearance Order in respect of 12 houses in a narrow cul-de-sac in the town centre was not confirmed by the Minister after a Public Local Inquiry. In communicating his decision to the Council, the Minister stated that he agreed that all houses were unfit for human habitation, but was satisfied that they could be converted for use as business premises. They are in fact, now being used as business premises, following the acceptance of undertakings under Part II of the Act.

This decision caused some concern to the Council, as it has meant the retention of a congested area of blighted property, which in the Council's view, would have been better swept away.

In addition to action taken under Part III of the Act, Closing Orders were made in respect of five houses housing 21 persons, and five houses with a total of 23 occupants owned by the local authority, were demolished.

The total number of houses, therefore, dealt with during the year, was 127, with a population of 382 persons. A further 31 houses were demolished as a result of action taken during previous years.

The Rent Act, 1957.

Details of work during the year are as follows :—

No. of Applications for Certificates of Disrepair (Form I)	7
No. of Proposals to Issue (Form J)	8
No. of Undertakings received (Form K)	3
No. of Certificates of Disrepair issued (Form L)	5
No. of Cancellations applied for (Form M)	6
No. of Cancellations issued	7

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES.

Over 900 visits were made to the various food premises by the Public Health Inspectors. The standard of food hygiene continues to improve and there has been little cause for complaint during the year.

The sale of food from mobile food vehicles is however, still open to criticism, and gives cause for concern. Most of the itinerant food vendors come into the housing estates in the Borough

from outside the area. The Committee can rest assured that a much closer watch is now being kept on these persons to see that there is due compliance with the requirments of the Food Hygiene Regulations.

The undermentioned table gives details of the number and type of food premises within the Borough, and the number of inspections made during the year.

	No. in District.	*No. of inspections made.*
Bakehouses	19	82
Butchers' Shops	42	148
Cafes, Restaurants and Snack Bars	23	48
Dairies and Milk Shops	14	84
Fried Fish Shops	16	22
Fruit and Greengrocers	45	55
General Provision Shops	106	227
Hotels and Public Houses	60	44
Ice-Cream Premises	114	42
Wet Fish Shops	11	27
Cake Shops	12	68
Sweet Shops	41	55

Foreign Bodies in Food.

Fourteen complaints were investigated during the year, but it was not found necessary to take any formal action.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

A total of 36 Formal samples and 28 Informal samples were taken under the provisions of this Act during the year.

The articles sampled were as follows :—

Formal.		*Informal.*	
Milk	35	Cream	1
Flavoured Milk	1	Tinned Milk	2
		Flavoured Milk	1
		Epsom Salts	2
		Milk	5
		Vinegar	3
		Fish Paste	3
		Sauce	2
		Meat Paste	1
		Chicken Paste	1
		Gravy Browning	1
		Mayonnaise	1
		Baking Powder	1
		Turkey and Tongue Paste	1
		Salmon Spread	2
		Table Wine	1

All the samples were returned at "Genuine."

I am indebted to Mr. T. H. Evans, Inspector of Weights and Measures, Denbighshire County Council, for the following details of his work in the Borough during the year.

Article.	*No. Taken.*	*Genuine.*	*Not Genuine or Sub-Standard.*
Milk	57	57	—
Margarine	1	1	—
Cheese	1	1	—
Bread	1	1	—
Cakes	1	1	—
Sponge Mixture	1	1	—
Flour	2	2	—
Baking Powder	1	1	—
Rice	1	1	—
Meat Paste	1	1	—
Sausages	3	3	—
Tinned Fish	1	1	—
Potted Shrimps	1	1	—
Vinegar	1	1	—
Dried Mint	1	1	—
Jam	2	2	—
Ice-Cream	7	7	—
Custard Powder	1	1	—
Fresh Cream	2	2	—
Table Jelly	1	1	—
Coffee	1	1	—
Cocoa	1	1	—
Soft Drinks	2	2	—
Beer	1	1	—
Port Style Wine	1	1	—
Aspirin Tablets	1	1	—
Calomel Tablets	1	1	—
TOTALS	95	95	—

All the samples were certified by the Public Analyst to be free from all prohibited preservative and colouring matter.

In addition to the milk samples submitted to the Public Analyst during the year, seventy-four samples of milk taken from Schools and Institutions in the Borough of Wrexham were tested in this Office by the Inspectors. All of these samples were found to be up to the presumptive standards prescribed by the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1939.

Duties relating to Ice-Cream.

There are 114 registered premises for ice-cream including two manufacturers.

During the year the following samples were taken:—

Bacteriological—14. These were graded as follows by the Public Health Laboratory Service:—

Grade 1		12
Grade 2		2
Grade 3		—
Grade 4		—

Fourteen samples were submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical analysis, and were found to be up to the required statutory standard.

Milk and Dairies Administration.

In addition to 14 registered dairy premises, there are now 42 persons registered as purveyors under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1959. Under the provisions of the Milk and Dairies (Special Designations) Regulations, 63 Dealer's Licences and 16 Supplementary Licences have been granted.

I give below the details relating to the bacteriological sampling of Milk:—

No. of samples taken	180

(1) **School Milks (Pasteurised).**

No. of samples taken	10
No. of samples satisfactory	9
No. of samples failing the Methylene Blue Test	1
No. of samples submitted to the Phosphatase Test	10
No. found satisfactory	10

School Milks (T.T./Pasteurised).

No. of samples taken	2
No. of samples satisfactory	2
No. of samples submitted to the Phosphatase Test	2
No. found satisfactory	2

(2) **Designated Milks other than School Milks.**

(Pasteurised Milk).

No. of samples taken	57
No. of samples satisfactory	56
No. of samples failing the Methylene Blue Test	1
No. of samples submitted to the Phosphatase Test	57
No. found satisfactory	57

(Tuberculin Tested Milk).

No. of samples taken	38
No. of samples satisfactory	34
No. of samples failing the Methylene Blue Test	4

(Tuberculin Tested/Pasteurised Milk).

No. of samples taken	54
No. of samples satisfactory	53
No. of samples failing the Methylene Blue Test	1
No. of samples submitted to the Phosphatase Test	54
No. found satisfactory	54

(Sterilised Milk).

No. of samples taken	19
No. of samples satisfactory	19

Inspection of Meat.

A total of 57,933 animals were slaughtered at the Municipal Abattoir during the year, an increase of over 10,000 on the previous year. In addition, over 23,000 frozen lamb carcases passed through the Abattoir.

All the animals slaughtered were inspected, and it will be noted that, although there was a considerable increase in the number of animals slaughtered, the amount of meat condemned was less than in 1958.

It is very pleasing to note the lowest incidence of tuberculosis ever recorded amongst animals slaughtered at the Abattoir. There is no doubt of the success of the Government's attestation scheme for the eradication of bovine tuberculosis, and one feels that much more publicity should have been given to the excellent results which have been achieved.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	*Cows.*	*Sheep and Lambs.*	*Pigs.*	*Calves.*
No. Slaughtered	3,036	154	38,554	16,077	112
No. Inspected	3,036	154	*61,855	16,077	112
Disease except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci.					
Whole carcases condemned	3	4	65	51	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1,550	57	3,224	567	—
% of No. inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	51.2%	39.6%	5.3%	3.8%	0.9%
Tuberculosis.					
Whole carcases condemned	1	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	104	10	—	199	—
% of No. inspected affected with Tuberculosis	3.5%	6.5%	—	1.2%	—
Cysticercosis.					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	14	1	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

* This figure includes dressed carcases and imported meat brought into the Abattoir.

Total weight of meat condemned during the year:—

19 tons 9 cwts. 3 qrs. 11 lbs.

Canned and Other Food, Etc., Condemned as unfit for human consumption.

Tinned Foods	4,170 lbs.
Tomato Juice	8¼ lbs.
Fat	18 lbs.
Beverages	¾ lbs.
Pickles	1 lb.
Ground Almonds	3¼ lbs.
Liquid Egg	92 lbs.
Frozen Egg	28 lbs.
Puff Pastry	13 lbs.
Preserves	69¾ lbs.
Cheese	92½ lbs.
Rice Pudding	8 lbs.
Cake	11½ lbs.
Poultry....	18½ lbs.
Fish....	182¼ lbs.
Vegetables....	31½ lbs.
Sugar	4 lbs.
Flour	5 lbs.
Cereals	5¼ lbs.
Miscellaneous....	23¾ lbs.

TOTAL—4,786¼ lbs.

Percentage classifications are as follows:—

Home	22.3%	=	1,067 lbs.
Empire	38.8%	=	1,855½ lbs.
Foreign	38.9%	=	1,863¾ lbs.
	100.0%	=	4,786¼ lbs.

WREXHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL.

Abattoir Revenue Account — Year Ended 31st March, 1959.

EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.
PREMISES AND PADDOCKS—			
Electricity, Fuel and Water	1,218	9	9
Rates, Taxes, Tithe and Insurance	578	9	3
Maintenance and Repairs	645	12	0
Painting	520	1	3
Removal of Manure, Inedible Offals and Ashes and Emptying Settling Tank	282	0	9
Chemicals, Cleaning Requisites and Laundry	94	5	10
Wages	1,714	1	6
Equipment	477	12	7
Protective Clothing	34	14	11
Paddock—			
Tree Planting and Cultivation	112	10	10
Loan Charges—			
Interest	1,089	17	5
Principal	1,732	4	10
Debt Management	10	1	6
GENERAL EXPENSES—			
Printing, Stationery, Telephone and Stamp Duty	106	6	5
Salaries, Superannuation and Insurance	533	8	11
Payments for Condemned Carcases Retained	69	16	9
	£9,219	14	6

INCOME.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Tolls	5,858	1	3			
Sale of Manure	103	12	6			
Rent of Offices	147	15	0			
Rent of Refrigerator Space	50	0	0			
Sale of Condemned Meat and Offal	144	13	6			
Wayleave (Hughes Bros.)	0	2	6			
Parking Fee — F.M.C.	26	0	0			
Stamp Duty Recharged	24	4	0			
Cold Store Charges	613	13	8			
Cold Store — Rent — F.M.C.	900	0	0			
				7,868	2	5
Deficit borne by Council				1,351	12	1
				£9,219	14	6